

SALHN Patient Care Grant Round

February 2026

**Enhance comfort, wellbeing, recovery,
and equity for patients, carers and
families.**



Proudly supported by



SALHN Patient Care Grant Round

Applicant Grants Pack 2026

The SALHN Patient Care Grant Round is designed to enhance the hospital experience and wellbeing of patients, families, and carers across the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network (SALHN).

The round supports practical, patient-centred initiatives that enhance comfort, care quality, recovery outcomes, and equity, as well as prevention and early intervention initiatives that reduce future health burden.

This grant round focuses philanthropic funding where it can add value beyond core services, enabling ideas shaped by lived experience and frontline insight to be tested, delivered, and shared.

Funding will prioritise initiatives that:

- Align with SALHN's Strategic Plan
- Align with Flinders Foundation's Theory of Change
- Demonstrate measurable improvements in patient-centred care, equity, and wellbeing
- Can be delivered within 12 months

The process emphasises equity, transparency, and patient-centred innovation, reflecting the shared commitment of SALHN and Flinders Foundation to delivering exceptional care, without exceptions.

Funding Available

- \$50,000 annually for SALHN-based projects (GST exclusive)
- Additional \$50,000 in 2026 for Patient Care Grants benefiting patients affected by Cancer, funded by proceeds from The Ribbon Ball
- Up to \$10,000 per project
- Funding is GST exclusive.

Program Purpose

To accelerate access to initiatives that enhance the patient and family experience, support recovery, and address disparities in healthcare access.

Outcomes We Seek

Successful projects will contribute to one or more of the following outcomes:

- Enhanced patient comfort, satisfaction, and care experience
- Faster recovery and improved clinical outcomes
- Reduced barriers to timely and equitable care
- Greater wellbeing for patients and families during hospital stays

SALHN Patient Care Grant Round

Eligibility

Eligible Applicants

Applications are open to:

- SALHN services and departments, including hospital and community settings
- VollieCare
- University staff in joint roles, when applying under their SALHN responsibilities
- Flinders Centre for Innovation in Cancer clinical roles (aligned to Cancer Patient Care Round)
- All applications must be endorsed by the relevant Clinical Director or Co-Director.

What Can Be Funded

Eligible requests include initiatives such as:

- Patient wellbeing and comfort initiatives (e.g. waiting area improvements, therapeutic equipment, creative therapy programs, volunteer-led initiatives)
- Initiatives that enhance hospital environments, recovery experiences, and family support
- Practical projects that demonstrate clear patient, family, or carer benefit and can be delivered within 12 months
- Projects that demonstrate a clear alignment to the SALHN Strategic Plan and Flinders Foundation Theory of Change
- Fulfil all other application requirements as per the Expression of Interest

What Cannot Be Funded

Funding will not support:

- Retrospective purchases or completed projects
- Everyday consumables, ongoing operational costs, or staff salaries
- Like-for-like replacements with no net improvement in care
- Major building works or non-integrated IT infrastructure
- Standalone software not intrinsic to the project
- Professional development or training activities
- Core SA Health responsibilities

SALHN Patient Care Grant Round

Milestone	Date
Applications Open	2 Feb 2026
Applications Close (5pm)	2 Mar 2026
Grants Announced	Early April 2026
6-Month Check-In	30 Oct 2026
Final Acquittal Report Due (or within one month of project completion, whichever is the earliest)	30 Apr 2027

SALHN Patient Care Grant Round

Assessment Criteria

Your application will be reviewed against the following:

Criteria	Description	Metrics and Evidence Required	Weighting
1. Quality of Care Impact	Demonstrates alignment with Flinders Foundation Theory of Change and SALHN's Strategic Priorities (Enhancing patient care; Expanding access & equity). Improves patient comfort, wellbeing, care quality, recovery outcomes, or prevention.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evidence of patient-centred approach• Alignment to SALHN priority areas• Anticipated improvements in care, satisfaction, or outcomes• Equity focus	50%
2. Evaluation & Learning	Strong rationale with clear objectives and capacity to measure outcomes. Demonstrates patient, family and carer engagement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clear objectives• Described evaluation methods (feedback, surveys, wellbeing metrics, service data)• Evidence of patient and family involvement	15%
3. Initiative Feasibility	Demonstrates realistic delivery, value for money, and sustainability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivery feasible within 12 months• Risks identified and mitigated• Budget up to \$10,000 supported with quotes• Potential for sustainability or replication	25%
4. Innovation	Introduces a novel or creative approach to patient care, prevention, or recovery that adds value beyond standard practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Description of what is new or different• Potential to scale, replicate, or influence other departments/sites• Contribution to culture of continuous improvement and learning	10%

SALHN Patient Care Grant Round

7. How to Apply

Step 1: Review this pack

Ensure your project aligns with the goals and criteria outlined.

Step 2: Complete your EOI

Fill out the online Expression of Interest form and attach endorsement and all required supporting information on the Flinders Foundation website.

Step 3: Submit your application

 Deadline: 5pm Monday 2nd March 2026

8. Support Available

If you need assistance, including accessibility support, contact:
grants@flindersfoundation.org.au

9. If You're Successful

You'll be:

- Assigned a Relationship Manager from Flinders Foundation.
- Asked to participate in a 6-month check-in and an acquittal within 12 months (or within one month of project completion, which ever is earliest).
- Invited to share impact stories for donors and staff audiences
- Acknowledging support from Flinders Foundation and SALHN in communications.

10. If You're Unsuccessful

You'll receive:

- A notification with consolidated feedback.
- You may receive an invitation to be listed in the Flinders Foundation “unmet needs listing” for future funding sourced on your behalf.
- Support to resubmit or revise your project for future grant rounds.

11. Communications and Recognition

Grants will be announced publicly during Flinders Foundation Annual Impact Event and promoted jointly by Flinders Foundation and SALHN. You may be invited to:

- Participate in a media opportunity, newsletter, or video story
- Attend a celebration event with donors and staff

12. Contact Us

Application and Accessibility Support

Megan Lapere, Head of Business Performance and Operations

Email: grants@flindersfoundation.org.au

SALHN Patient Care Grant Round Endorsement Form

Project Information:

Project Title:	
Org / Division Name:	
Contact Name:	
Contact Position:	
Contact Email:	
Contact Phone:	
Signature:	
Date:	

Endorsed by Manager / Head of Unit /
Nursing Director:

Signature

Name (print)

Position title

Date

Endorsed by Clinical Director /
Co-Director:

Signature

Name (print)

Position title

Date

SALHN STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2027

Excellence in healthcare and research

VISION

Striving for exceptional care



PURPOSE

Working together to improve health and wellbeing for the communities we serve

VALUES

EMPATHY

Compassion, communication and connection is central to how we care

TRUST

We do what we say, and deliver on our commitments

INCLUSION

We are part of the communities we serve and we work with others to do our best





PRIORITIES

Deliver equitable services

We strive to **understand the unique needs of diverse communities** to provide the equitable and accessible care they value. We work with **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities** to Close the Gap. We aim to provide services **free from discrimination** to all, including Culturally and Linguistically Diverse, Disability and LGBTQI+ communities.

Provide quality care

We are committed to the delivery of **safe, appropriate, accessible care**, from the **first 1000 days to the last 1000 days**, across our services. We continually improve practice to provide **acceptable, efficient and effective** services to achieve **person and family-centred care**.

Drive innovation and research

We are at the forefront of discovering new ways to deliver better care through **critical enquiry** and **research** informed by **lived experience**. New knowledge and innovation informs the **continued improvement**, development and transformation of services.

Inspire through education and learning

We inspire through teaching and education to build an **agile learning organisation** for all to continuously improve the way we deliver care. We continue to support **partnerships with tertiary institutions** to empower the future workforce. We seek opportunities to **promote health literacy** in the community.

Look after the workforce

We are committed to providing a workplace where people **grow, excel and exceed** their career aspirations, by embedding a **culture of collaboration, supportive leadership** and continuous learning. We support the **health, wellbeing and safety** of the diverse workforce, **empowering them to care** for each other and the communities we serve.

Grow cooperative partnerships

We are growing our partnership capability. We are **connecting care by strengthening existing relationships** and forging new partnerships to extend the reach of services and increase **our collective impact** in the community.



ENABLERS

TECHNOLOGY

People-centred technology that is driven by user experience

INFRASTRUCTURE

Infrastructure for today and the future

SUSTAINABILITY

Workforce, environmental and financial sustainability

Our Theory of Change

At Flinders Foundation, we begin with a simple but powerful belief: everyone deserves exceptional healthcare, without exception.

Flinders Foundation supports a thriving health and medical research precinct anchored by Flinders Medical Centre and Flinders University. From Southern Adelaide to the mid corridor of South Australia and into the Northern Territory, this network delivers vital care, education, and research that reaches some of the most geographically and socially diverse communities in the country.

But this region is also under pressure, which can limit the care patients receive and slow the translation of life-changing research into real-world impact.

We exist to be part of changing that.

We bring people together, donors, partners, fundraisers, researchers, clinicians, and communities near and far, to bridge the critical gaps that hold our healthcare system back.

Together, we can create the conditions for a healthier and more resilient future where no one is left behind, where care reaches every person, and where every discovery has the chance to change and save lives.

Our Approach

Our approach is both strategic and human-centred. We focus our investment on six interconnected pillars:

Expanding Access and Equity

We fund infrastructure, technology, and programs that reduce barriers and close the gap in access to care, ensuring that no matter who you are or where you live, your health matters.

Advancing Research and Innovation

Through seed funding and precinct partnerships, we accelerate the journey from scientific discovery to real-world application—fuelling breakthroughs that improve lives near and far.

Enhancing Patient Care and Experience

We invest in environments, services, and wellbeing programs that elevate the patient journey, supporting recovery, dignity, and whole-person health.

Empowering the Healthcare Workforce

We back the people behind the care through grants that support wellbeing, development, and retention of healthcare professionals to support a resilient and motivated workforce.

Investing in Emerging Researchers

We nurture the next generation of innovators, offering scholarships and fellowships that build capacity and leadership for the future of healthcare.

Strengthening Community and Partnerships

We foster multi-year relationships and collaborative funding efforts to build sustainable, system-level change, helping to transform healthcare from the inside out by investing in innovation and patient centred support.

Our ultimate goal? A world-class, patient-centred health system where no one is left behind and every discovery has the chance to save and change lives.

Our partners make our support possible

Flinders Foundation exists to support exceptional healthcare and groundbreaking research, and we couldn't do it without our community. That includes you.

If you've seen first-hand the difference that giving makes through grants, equipment, or research funding, and you would like to get involved we encourage you to reach out to our Foundation team.

To find out more or to explore how you can help, pop into our Foundation office, visit flindersfoundation.org.au or email our team at supporters@flindersfoundation.org.au.

Together, we can ensure exceptional care for our community, without exceptions.

Thank you

